(ग) जुलाई, 1990 और दिसम्बर, 1991 में देश में कपास का कुल शेष भण्डार कितना था;

(घ) भण्डार की अद्यतन स्थिति क्या है; और

(ङ) वर्ष 1991-92 के दौरान देश में सूती मिलों, कताई मिलों और अन्य क्षेत्रों में कपास की कुल अनुमानित आवश्यकता कितनी है ?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अशोक गहलोत) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) कपास सलाहकार बोर्ड ने दिनांक 14-2-92 को आयोजित अपनी पिछली बैठक में कपास मौसम 1991-92 (सितम्बर, 91, अगस्त, 92) के लिये निम्नलिखित कपास बजट तैयार किया है :—

मद	मात्रा लाख गांठों में प्रत्येक गांठ 170 कि०ग्रा० की
प्रारम्भिक स्टाक	22.64
आयात	5.00
फसल	116.00
कुल	143.64
खपत	
मिल खपत	106.25
गैर-मिल खपत	8.00
निर्यात	1.00
कुल	115.25
शेष	28.39

कपास सलाहकार बोर्ड जो सरकार को कपास के उत्पादन, खपत आदि से संबंधित मामलों पर सलाह देता है, अपनी अगली बैठक में स्थिति की समीक्षा करेगा।

(ग) और (घ) कपास के स्टाक का अनुमान विशेष कपास मौसम के अन्त पर लगाया जाता है। कपास सलाहकार बोर्ड ने अनुमान लगाया था कि अगस्त, 90 और अगस्त, 91 के अन्त में क्रमशः 33.04 लाख गांठों और 22.64 लाख गाठों का अन्तिम स्टाक था। वर्ष 1991-92 के कपास मौसम के अन्त तक कपास सलाहकार बोर्ड ने 28.39 लाख गांठों के अन्तिम स्टाक का अनुमान लगाया है।

(ङ) कपास सलाहकार बोर्ड ने दिनांक 14-2-92 को आयोजित अपनी पिछली बैठक में अनुमान लगाया था कि कपास मौसम 1991-92 के दौरान मिल की खपत 106.25 लाख गांठें और गैर-मिल खपत 8.00 लाख गांठें होगी।

Arrangements made to get Textiles requirement of Govt. Department

607. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any arrangements have been made to get the requirements of Textiles of the consuming Departments of the Government met through handloom produced in the cooperatives and corporations on conversion basis; and

(b) if so, what are the varieties of the cloth that are being produced or proposed to be produced on handlooms on conversion basis and the wages prescribed for their production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b) The primary Handloom weavers co-operative Societies and the State Handloom Development Corporations functioning in different states are by and large supplying raw materials to the weavers enrolled with them and procuring the finished goods on conversion basis under the Direct Production Programme. These Societies/Corporations are allocated a regular share in the purchases of textiles by

Central Government Departments/Agencies. Accordingly Government introduced the purchase of Handloom fabrics for Central Government's use on the basis of Single Tender System for supply of the same to Central Government Ministries/Departments/Agencies. The Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handlooms (ACASH) has been notified as a nodal agency for purchase of handloom textiles from the handloom Sector.

During the last three years the items supplied through ACASH include Durries, Army Towel, Barrack Blankets, Blouse Material, Polyster suiting, Polyester Shirtings, Sarees, Gauze, Bandage and Bedsheets. Government of India does not prescribe wage component under this scheme.

Memorandum on Handloom submitted to Prime Minister by Members of Parliament

608. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation of Members of Parliament of both the Houses met the Prime Minister on 17th March, 1992 and submitted a memorandum to protect the handloom industry;

(b) what are the main requests made in the memorandum; and

(c) what decisions have been taken thereon to help handloom industry in distress ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main points in the Memorandum were :—

(i) Inclusion of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 in the IX Schedule of the Constitution.

(ii) Strict enforcement of hank yarn obligation order through a statute to be enacted for this purpose.

(iii) Distribution of hank yarn to handloom weavers at stable and reasonable rates through National Handloom Development Corporation and State Apex Corporatives and Corporations.

(iv) Reomval of cost handicap of the handlooms vis-a-vis powerlooms by suitable fiscal measures.

(c) A statement is attached.

Statement

(i) Government of India should be ready to move the Constitutional Amendment Bill for inclusion of the Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 in the IXth Schedule of the Constitution immediately after and depending on the judgement in the matter by the Supreme Court. Concerned Ministries and Departments of Government of India should take all necessary action to seek an early listing of the case in the Supreme Court.

(ii) All efforts may be made to see the enforcement of Hank Yarn Obligation Order.

(iii) National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) shall augment the yarn supply operations. National Textile Corporation (NTC) shall augment production of hank yarn specially of counts 40s and below. State Governments have been requested to constitute State Level Committee for monitoring yarn prices, its production and pricing by mills under the State control and its distribution through State Level Corporations and Apex Cooperatives. Government has also reviewed its policy of export of cotton yarn with a view to stabilise prices in the country. It has also been decided to import 2 lakh bales of cotton for conversion into hank yarn for distribution to handloom weavers at reduced rates. Decision